

# THE COSTS OF POOR WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Bryan Hager

---

**MODERATOR:** Chair, Georgia Chapter of the Sierra Club, 2314 Pleasant Ridge Road Bremen, Georgia 30110. Telephone: 770-537-9480 voice and fax.

**REFERENCE:** *Proceedings of the 1997 Georgia Water Resources Conference*, held March 20-22, 1997, at The University of Georgia, Kathryn J. Hatcher, Editor, Institute of Ecology, The University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia.

---

**Synopsis:** The existing program of water quality management often fails to make responsible parties clean up their sewage and run-off. This failure can cost downstream parties millions of dollars, degrade the environment and may disrupt growth and development in Georgia.

## PANELISTS:

**Ed Mayhew**, Professor of Biology, Gainesville College, Gainesville, Georgia. Tel: 770-718-3810.

Poor water quality can negatively impact adjacent property owners. The negative impacts can reduce property values and local tax collections.

**Jim Baxley**, Director of the Carroll County Water Authority, Carroll County Water Authority, P. O. Box 739, Carrollton, GA 30117. Tel: 770-834-6667, Fax: 830-8853.

Pollution of the Chattahoochee River has prevented Carroll County from using the river for drinking water and economic development.

**Luke Wood**, Superintendent of the Cecil Wood Water Treatment Plant for the City of Roswell. Cecil Wood Water Purification Plant, 100 Dobbs Drive, Roswell, GA 30075-4567. Tel: 770-641-3816.

Sedimentation from upstream development has damaged equipment and increased costs for rate payers in Roswell.

**Doug Haines**, Director of the Georgia Center for Law in the Public Interest, 264 North Jackson, Athens, GA 30601. 706-546-9008. Tel: 706-546-9008.

Georgia's failure to implement a water resource management program which protects water quality has brought about court imposed deadline to develop a plan and implement a program to clean up polluted waters. Implementing the clean up program may cause significant changes for local governments and industrial water system managers.